

## REMARKS

### Restriction/Election

Pursuant to the election/restriction requirement set by the Examiner, Applicants have herein elected with traverse Claims 1 - 7, 15, 17 - 26 of Species I of Invention I, which are drawn to a spin valve magnetic element. Applicants submit that Claims 1 - 7, 15, 17 - 26 are directed to a single patentably distinct Species I of Invention I and has accordingly elected the corresponding Group I of claims, as required by the Examiner.

As stated by the Examiner and agreed by the Applicants, claim 1 is generic to all of the patentably distinct species, and a relationship between the claims and the figures is shown below:

Species I: Figures 1 – 4, and 20 – 21; Claims 1 - 7, 15, 17 – 26.

Species II: Figures 5 & 9; Claims 9, 11 and 13.

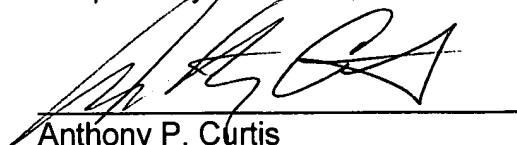
Species III: Figures 6; Claims 16.

Species IV: Figure 7; Claims 8, 10, 12, and 14.

### Conclusion

Therefore, in view of the above amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly requested. Applicants believe a one-month extension is due and a corresponding check is enclosed. If for any reason, however, the Examiner feels that a telephone interview would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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